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A MEMORIAL
REQUESTING THE INTERAGENCY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PURCHASING
COLLABORATIVE TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE, STATEWIDE PLAN FOR
TREATMENT OF OPIOID ADDICTION AMONG ADOLESCENTS.

WHEREAS, in 2005, New Mexico had the second-highest
drug-induced death rate in the United States, with nearly
thirty deaths for every one hundred thousand persons,
compared to a rate of just over eleven deaths for every one
hundred thousand persons in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the total unintentional drug overdose death
rate in New Mexico increased by one hundred eighty percent
between 1990 and 2005; and

WHEREAS, adolescent deaths from opioid overdose
accounted for twelve percent of all opioid deaths in New
Mexico in 2009, up from two percent prior to 2004; and

WHEREAS, a 2007 national survey, conducted by the
federal substance abuse and mental health services
administration, indicated that New Mexico teens between the
ages of twelve and seventeen use illicit drugs more heavily
than the United States average; and

WHEREAS, according to data collected from the 2009 youth
risk and resiliency survey, fourteen and three-tenths percent
of New Mexico students used prescription painkillers to get
high that year, an increase of nearly two percent from 2007;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, New Mexico lacks a system of coordinated and
3 effective care for treatment of opioid-addicted adolescents;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, there are virtually no outpatient facilities in
6 New Mexico that offer combined medical and psychological
7 treatment of adolescent opioid addiction; and

8 WHEREAS, there are no inpatient facilities in New Mexico
9 that offer combined medical and psychological treatment of
10 adolescent opioid addiction; and

11 WHEREAS, a November 4, 2009 study, conducted by the
12 department of health in response to House Memorial 9, which
13 was passed in the first session of the forty-ninth
14 legislature, acknowledged the seriousness of opioid use among
15 adolescents; and

16 WHEREAS, despite the report's numerous recommendations
17 for an ongoing commitment to addressing this problem, no
18 comprehensive plan for treatment of adolescents has been
19 developed;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
21 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interagency behavioral health
22 purchasing collaborative be requested to develop a
23 comprehensive, statewide plan for treatment of opioid
24 addiction among adolescents; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interagency behavioral

1 health purchasing coordinate in the development of the plan
2 with the behavioral health services division of the human
3 services department; the substance abuse subcommittee of the
4 behavioral health planning council; the children, youth and
5 families department; the department of health; and other
6 member agencies of the interagency behavioral health
7 purchasing collaborative that are involved in the treatment
8 of adolescents with opioid addiction; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the comprehensive plan,
10 including steps for implementation of the plan, be presented
11 to the interim legislative health and human services
12 committee by October 2011; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
14 transmitted to the chief executive officer of the interagency
15 behavioral health purchasing collaborative, the behavioral
16 health services division of the human services department and
17 the substance abuse subcommittee of the behavioral health
18 planning council.
